CLAIMS

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- 1. A molded article comprising pulp and having an opening portion, a body portion, and a bottom portion, wherein said body portion has no seams, the outer and inner surfaces of said article are smooth, and said body portion has at least one cross-sectional diameter which is greater than a corresponding cross-sectional diameter of said opening portion, said corresponding cross-sectional diameter of said opening portion being located within the vertical plane which contains said cross-sectional diameter of said body portion.
- 2. The molded article according to claim 1, wherein all the cross-sectional diameters of said body portion are greater than corresponding cross-sectional diameters of said opening portion, each of said corresponding cross-sectional diameters of said opening portion being located within the vertical plane which contains each of said cross-sectional diameters of said body portion.
- 3. The molded article according to claim 1, wherein said article has no seams over the portion from said body portion to said bottom portion.
- 4. The molded article according to claim 1, wherein said article has a screw thread on said opening portion.
- 5. The molded article according to claim 1, wherein said article has a density of 0.4 to 2.0 g/cm³.
- 6. The molded article according to claim 1, wherein said article has a moisture permeability of 100 g/(m²·24 hr) or less.

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7. The molded article according to claim 1, wherein said article has a thickness of 0.1 mm or greater and has a corner whose thickness is greater than the thickness of other portions of said article.

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8. The molded article according to claim 1, wherein said opening portion has a thick-walled portion which is thicker than said body portion and said bottom portion, said thick-walled portion being formed on the area from the top edge of said opening portion to a prescribed depth continuously or discontinuously over the whole circumference of said opening portion.

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9. The molded article according to claim 1, wherein said article further has a plastic layer on the outer and/or the inner surfaces thereof.

- 10. The molded article according to claim 1, wherein said article has a multilayered structure comprising a first pulp layer, a second pulp layer different from said first pulp layer in composition, and a mixed layer located between said first pulp layer and said second pulp layer, said mixed layer has a continuous gradient in composition in which the composition changes from that of said first pulp layer to that of said second pulp layer.
- The molded article according to claim 1, wherein said article is prepared from, as a paper stock, a slurry containing pulp fiber having an average fiber length of 0.8 to 2.0 mm, a Canadian Standard Freeness of 100 to 600 cc, and such a frequency distribution of fiber length as comprises 20 to 90%, based on the total fiber, of fibers whose length ranges from 0.4 mm to 1.4 mm and 5 to 50%, based on the total fiber, of fibers whose length is longer than 1.4 mm and not longer than 3.0 mm.

APP A2

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